

MINUTES

OF THE

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION

TELEPHONE MEETING

APRIL 13, 2006

WALLACE STATE OFFICE BUILDING
DES MOINES, IOWA

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MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The telephone meeting of the Natural Resource Commission was called to order by Chairperson Marcantonio at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2006 at the Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joan Schneider
Janice Marcantonio
Carol Kramer
Lennis Moore
Randy Duncan
Kim Francisco

Liz Garst was unable to connect into the teleconference because of ICN technical problems.

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion was made by Commissioner Kramer to approve the April 13, 2006 NRC agenda. Seconded by Commissioner Francisco. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA APPROVED

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Linda Hanson, Administrator, Management Services Division, presented the following item.

Bids were opened March 22, 2006 for the following projects:

Volga Lake State Recreation Area, Fayette Co. – Handicapped Access Walkway

This project consists of the construction of a PCC walkway, two PCC stairways adjacent to Volga Lake, and incidental work as required by the Plans and the DNR Construction Inspector. Project is budgeted 75% in Federal Dingle-Johnston and 25% in Fish and Wildlife Trust Non-Habitat Stamp funds. DNR estimate is \$115,000. Twenty-two sets of Plans were issued. Twelve bids were received.

Matt Construction, Inc.	Sumner, IA	\$ 81,948.50
Tschiggfrie Excavating, Inc.	Dubuque, IA	\$ 91,119.00
Browns Pump Service & Excavating	Arlington, IA	\$ 91,140.00
Riehm Construction	Waukon, IA	\$ 92,434.52

Blazek Corp.	Lawler, IA	\$ 92,635.00
Vieth Construction Corp.	Cedar Falls, IA	\$ 97,900.00
Connolly Construction, Inc.	Peosta, IA	\$ 98,447.00
Dolan Excavating, LLC	Manchester, IA	\$105,921.00
Skyline Construction, Inc.	Decorah, IA	\$113,334.26
McCubbin Construction Corp.	Davenport, IA	\$132,056.00
Buildings & Grounds, LLC dba Super Landscapes	West Union, IA	\$146,644.00
Weavers, Inc.	Tipton, IA	\$148,294.00

Staff recommends award of contract to Matt Construction, Inc., low bidder.

Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan to approve the low bid by Matt Construction, Inc. of Sumner, Iowa, in the amount of \$81,948.50 for handicapped access walkway construction at Volga Lake State Recreation Area in Fayette County. Seconded by Commissioner Schneider.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT APPROVED

Crystal Lake, Hancock Co. – Hydraulic Dredging

This project consists of the hydraulic dredging of Crystal Lake; removal, replacement and extension of an existing aeration system, and incidental work as required by the Plans and the DNR Construction Inspector. Project is budgeted 100% in Lake and Stream Restoration funds. DNR estimate is \$3,100,000. Eleven sets of Plans were issued. Five bids were received.

L. W. Matteson, Inc.	Burlington, IA	\$2,824,000.00
Dubuque Barge & Fleeting Service Co. dba Newt Marine Service	Dubuque, IA	\$3,649,000.00
Southwind Construction Corp.	Evansville, IN	\$3,960,102.64
McGruder Construction Co., Inc.	Eolia, MO	\$3,996,000.00
Western Contracting Corp.	Sioux City, IA	\$4,395,000.00

Staff recommends award of contract to L. W. Matteson, Inc., low bidder.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kramer to approve the low bid of L.W. Matteson, Inc. of Burlington, Iowa, in the amount of \$2,824,000.00 for dredging at Crystal Lake in Hancock County. Seconded by Commissioner Francisco. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT APPROVED

Lake Macbride State Park, Johnson Co. – Water Storage Building (South Side)

This project consists of the construction of a water storage building and other related work as required by the Plans and the DNR Construction Inspector. Project is budgeted 100% in REAP Open Spaces (FY07) funds. DNR estimate is \$25,000. Thirteen sets of Plans were issued. Two bids were received.

Engineering Consultants, Inc.	Cedar Rapids, IA	\$35,929.00
Vieth Construction Corp.	Cedar Falls, IA	\$59,870.00

Staff recommends award of contract to Engineering Consultants, Inc., low bidder.

Motion was made by Commissioner Francisco to accept the low bid of Engineering Consultants, Inc. of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in the amount of \$35,929.00 for a water storage building at Lake Macbride State Park in Johnson County. Seconded by Commissioner Schneider. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT APPROVED

Banner WMA, Warren Co. – Shooting Range Reconstruction

This project consists of replacing existing shooting tubes with a new style of shooting station that will reduce noise levels, and increasing the number of stations from 11 to 20 to allow shooters a more pleasant experience. Other improvements scheduled are the addition of a range control building for operation by a concessionaire, enhanced site geometrics to allow a safer more structured access to the range, and incidental work as required by the Plans and the DNR Construction Inspector. Project is budgeted in Fish and Wildlife Trust Fund. DNR estimate is \$525,000. Sixteen sets of Plans were issued. Three bids were received.

Betts & Beer Construction Co., Inc.	Adair, IA	\$536,116.00
Bergstrom Construction, Inc.	Des Moines, IA	\$544,695.00
C. L. Carroll Company, Inc.	Des Moines, IA	\$556,116.00

Staff recommends award of contract to Betts & Beer Construction Co., Inc., low bidder.

Motion was made by Commissioner Duncan to approve the low bid of Betts & Beer Construction Co., Inc. of Adair, Iowa, in the amount of \$536,116.00 for shooting range reconstruction at Banner WMA in Warren County. Seconded by Commissioner Schneider. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT APPROVED

Elinor Bedell State Park, Dickinson Co. – Access Trail and Rain Garden

This project consists of the construction of a trail and garden and other related work as required by the Plans and the DNR Construction Inspector. Project is budgeted 100% in REAP Land Management Minors funds. DNR estimate is \$25,000. Eight sets of Plans were issued. Six bids were received.

Cohrs Construction, Inc.	Spirit Lake, IA	\$25,587.11
Christensen Construction & Design Co., Inc.	Estherville, IA	\$27,409.08
Richards Construction Co., Inc.	Sac City, IA	\$31,481.00
Berg Const. & Landscaping,	Spirit Lake, IA	\$33,361.30
Vaughn DeLoss Construction	Spencer, IA	\$33,477.00
Beck Excavating, Inc.	Spirit Lake, IA	\$40,912.98

Staff recommends award of contract to Cohrs Construction, Inc., low bidder.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kramer to approve the low bid of Cohrs Construction Inc. of Spirit Lake, Iowa, in the amount of \$25,587.11 for trail and rain garden construction at Elinor Bedell State Park in Dickinson County. Seconded by Commissioner Schnieder. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT APPROVED

Pine Lake State Park, Hardin Co. – Bank Stabilization

This project consists of the stabilization of approximately 700 feet of shoreline on lower Pine Lake. Due to the terrain and the lack of access, rip rap will need to be placed by barge or other method and other related work as required by the Plans and the DNR Construction Inspector. Project is budgeted 100% in Marine Fuel Tax funds. DNR estimate is \$65,000. Nine sets of Plans were issued. Two bids were received.

Weavers, Inc.	Tipton, IA	\$65,500.00
Peterson Contractors, Inc.	Reinbeck, IA	\$69,110.00

Staff recommends award of contract to Weavers, Inc., low bidder.

Motion was made by Commissioner Schneider to approve the low bid of Weavers, Inc. of Tipton, Iowa, in the amount of \$65,500.00 for bank stabilization construction at Pine Lake State Park in Hardin County. Seconded by Commissioner Francisco. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECT APPROVED

LAND ACQUISITION

Linda Hanson, Administrator, Management Services Division, presented the following item.

Kiowa Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Sac County—Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (Sampers)

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the purchase of a tract of land adjacent to the state-owned Kiowa Marsh WMA, Boyer Valley Township in Sac County. This 3.97-acre tract is offered by the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation for the appraised price of \$14,300.

John T. Barker of Ritter Appraisals, Inc., Harrisonville, Missouri appraised the parcel as part of a 145-acre US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Prairie Pothole Joint Venture Acquisition (the tract is under option to the FWS for \$522,000). Jerry Gibson negotiated the acquisition.

The 3.97-acres is located 2 miles west of Early has excellent access on the south side from 230th Street, is comprised of tillable land and will provide nesting cover. This acquisition will

facilitate an exchange for 6.2 acres, owned by the FWS, valued at \$14,300, and located next to the Rice Lake WMA in Winnebago County. The DNR will use the 6.2 acres for a building site.

Funding used for this acquisition will come from Wildlife Habitat Stamp. No fencing or survey costs are anticipated. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Motion was made by Commissioner Francisco to approve the purchase of a 3.97 acre tract of land adjacent to Kiowa Marsh WMA in Sac County for the appraised price of \$14,300.00. Seconded by Commissioner Moore. Motion carried unanimously.

LAND ACQUISITION APPROVED

Clear Lake, Cerro Gordo County—Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation (Papajohn)

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for the purchase of a tract of land on the west side of Clear Lake, south of the corporate limits of Ventura in Cerro Gordo County. This 25.13-acre tract is offered for the bargain sale price of \$150,000.

Fred Greder, Licensed Appraiser, Benchmark Agribusiness, Mason City, Iowa, appraised the property for \$830,000. Jerry Gibson negotiated the purchase agreement.

The property is located south of Ventura along the east side of the extension of Main Street adjacent to the south shore of Clear Lake. The rural subdivision known as Ventura Heights is adjacent to the east. This tract of land has an estimated 720 feet of lakeshore frontage, with 660 feet of workable lake frontage.

The acquisition will provide shoreline protection; access for fishing and other outdoor recreation; and aid in water quality improvement. Project development will eventually include a biking/walking trail.

This parcel was approved for REAP Public/Private Cost Share in October 2005. Acquisition funding will come from REAP Public/Private Cost Share. Incidental closing costs will be the responsibility of the Department.

Motion was made by Commissioner Kramer to approve the purchase of a 25.13 acre tract of land on the west side of Clear Lake from the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation for the bargain sale price of \$150,000. Seconded by Commissioner Schnieder. Motion carried unanimously.

LAND ACQUISITION APPROVED

BELLEVUE STATE PARK—HIGHWAY 52 TEMPORARY EASEMENTS AND TRANSFER OF JURISDICTION TO DOT

The Natural Resource Commission's approval is requested for two temporary easements, and a permanent transfer of jurisdiction of state park land to the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) pursuant to Sections 28E.12, 306.4, and 306A.5 of the Iowa Code. The Commission's approval would authorize the DNR to enter into an agreement with the DOT to temporarily use a small portion of Bellevue State Park (Park) for the purposes of removing the bridge for and constructing an entrance into the park from US Highway 52. The agreement would also permanently transfer 1,275 square feet of state park property adjacent to the highway to the DOT in exchange for \$1,275.

The DOT is planning a major bridge reconstruction project in Jackson County, Iowa, adjacent to the Park. The reconstruction will require DOT to use about 0.37 acres of the adjacent park property as a staging and access area. In cooperation with the DNR, the DOT conducted a thorough environmental review of the affected area, which resulted in the Federal Highway Administration finding no need for individual environmental action.

In exchange for the DOT's use of this park property, the DOT has agreed to:

- notify park personnel of any closures required for the construction;
- minimize closures of the Park's access road and keep the road open during busy weekends, such as Memorial Day, Independence Day and Labor Day;
- provide park personnel with access to the park at all times;
- reimburse the DNR for up to \$10,000 to replace the current park sign;
- provide an aesthetically consistent barrier that would be placed opposite the park entrance;
- pave the parking area with porous concrete;
- not disturb the existing Jersey barrier along the south side of the park entrance; and
- minimize negative visual impacts adjacent to the Park during the construction process.

The DNR also proposes to transfer 1,275 square feet of state park property to DOT in exchange for \$1,275. The land will remain in possession of the State of Iowa, but the exclusive jurisdiction and control of the land will transfer to DOT. The 1,275 square feet represents a narrow wedge of land adjacent to the existing US Highway 52 that is approximately ten feet wide at its widest point and approximately 250 feet long, which will be used to expand and widen the roadway and bridge to allow for a ten-foot wide recreational trail where a 4.5-foot wide sidewalk currently exists.

Motion was made by Commissioner Francisco to authorize the DNR to enter into an agreement with the DOT to temporarily use a small portion of Bellevue State Park for the purposes of removing the bridge for and constructing an entrance into the park from US Highway 52 and to permanently transfer 1,275 square feet of state park property adjacent to the highway to the DOT in exchange for \$1,275. Seconded by Commissioner Duncan.

EASEMENTS AND TRANSFER APPROVED

GENERAL DISCUSSION

There was no general discussion. Linda Hanson stated she would provide information to the commissioners regarding the purpose for the water storage building at Lake Macbride State Park. She also offered to provide a description of porous cement.

NEXT MEETING DATES

The next meeting will be held May 11 at Waubonsie State Park in Fremont County.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Commissioner Kramer to adjourn the April 13, 2006 NRC telephone meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m..

Jeffrey R. Vonk, Director

Janice Marcantonio, Chairperson

Randy Duncan, Secretary

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